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Unique Program

Rev. Anthony N. Teolis, C.P.P.S.

Nowadays you sometimes hear the complaint that medical doctors have become impersonal and almost push-button-like in their feelings for others. When a person comes across an example to dispel this opinion, he wants to share it with others. The fine spirit of sacrifice and warm feeling for mankind did not go out with the country doctor and the era of the high button shoes and buggy carriages. It is still with us.

A group of medical doctors in Canton, Ohio, reveal this dedicated spirit in our times. And their number is not small. About five miles west of the city is located Brunnerdale Seminary, a high school training boys to be future priests or brothers in the Society of the Precious Blood. Later on, these boys will be engaged in helping others both in this country and in the poor regions of South America.

The health and safety of the students has always been a prime concern of the officials of the seminary. Although they wanted the best for them, problems of finance and engaging good doctors, when needed, proved to be stumbling blocks in this regard. They also wanted a "family doctor" atmosphere for the students. Ten years ago, the Rector of the Seminary approached one of the doctors in the area with his problem. The doctor said that he would talk to several of his colleagues to see what could be done. After discussing a few ideas, the doctors came up with a *unique idea*. The four of them: Dr. James Pagano, Dr. Mark Moots, Dr. Paul Smith, and Dr. Raymond Rosedale, would volunteer their services to the seminary. They would act as the medical board taking care of all necessary details dealing with health and safety of the seminarians. These include: supplying the required medicines for dispensary, arranging for TB tests, scheduling flu shots, outlining ways and means of prevention of disease and infection, instruction on personal cleanliness and outward appearance, arranging for

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talks on teenage problems, listing suggestions for safety, and instructions on how to call doctors and receive emergency help. These four men would take a month apiece to be on call for the boys.

But soon afterwards other interested doctors in the vicinity heard of the personal efforts of the volunteer board. They also wanted to offer their services for this good cause. Before it was over, thirty-six medical men from all fields put their names on the volunteer list. The following plan is now in operation. Each doctor is given a month apiece to be on call for the seminary. He either travels here to attend the boys in more urgent cases or he appears at the hospital to meet the patient there. Most of these doctors are specialists in their fields, but, for the boys, they are always ready and willing to take care of even their smallest need. However, each expert is on call for any case pertaining to his particular skills, such as, surgery, dermatology, dentistry, or psychiatry. This volunteer staff is made up of medical doctors of all religious faiths. They see this as a good cause and dedicate themselves to it regardless of the race, color, or creed of the patient. This is indeed a living tribute to their profession.

The doctors who make up the staff are: *Medical*: Dr. John Joliet, Dr. Richard Kelty, Dr. Joseph Kolp, Dr. J. J. Maggiore, Dr. Raymond McMahon, Dr. Joseph Mihanovic, Dr. Mark

Moots, Dr. Joseph Muzycka, Dr. Virgil Tirmonia, Dr. Joseph Thomas; *Surgical*: Dr. Hiram Bazzoli, Dr. John Botti, Dr. Frank Gonzalez, Dr. James Pagano, Dr. Paul Smith, Dr. Charles Staudt, Dr. John Thomas, Dr. William Yhraus, Dr. Clapper; *Ears, Nose, Throat*: Dr. Rudolf Nowara, Dr. Clarence Schirack, Dr. Raymond Rosedale, Jr., Dr. Thomas Pickett; *Bone and Joint*: Dr. William Bush, Dr. Arthur Abelson; *Dermatologists*: Dr. Robert Gardner, Dr. James Beckaman; *Eyes*: Dr. George Lockhart, Dr. Jerome Fladen; *Urologist*: Ripich; *Podiatrists*: Dr. Lorene Gowers, Dr. Michael Perrone.

In appreciation for all this effort, once a year the seminary holds a dinner on the place for the doctors and their wives. Not only do the priests, brothers, and students look forward to this gathering, but the doctors and their wives consider this the high light of their social calendar of the year. Here they can relax and talk informally with their hosts. After the meal, the students put on a little program for the guests, consisting of music, speeches, and skits relating to the medical profession. Then a general meeting follows. New ideas are brought up and old problems are untangled. There is a report on the present status of the health and safety of the seminarians. Plans are laid for the coming year and the boys remain assured that this *unique program* will continue in their behalf.